

Green Tier Legacy Community Annual Report 2017

Bayfield, Wisconsin

An eco-municipality since December 13, 2006

2017 Green Tier Report

Statement:

The City of Bayfield WI, population 487, is pleased to boast that we've been a pilot member of the WI Green Tier Legacy Community since 2010. This has provided an opportunity for us to voluntarily participate in a state wide program to achieve environmental performance. We have and continue to work cooperatively to develop and exchange ideas to reduce greenhouse gases, reduce energy usage, promote alternative transportation, increases local food consumption and provide encouragement for local business development.

Lake Superior, the greatest of all the Great Lakes, deserves all the attention and protection that we can provide. The lake holds 10% of all fresh surface water in the world which gives us a tremendous responsibility.

The City of Bayfield has a history of engaging in sustainability practices on a variety of levels. This has helped us protect Lake Superior, gives great PR for our businesses, provides pride and enthusiasm for city staff and residents, encourages leverage of funding sources and establishes a platform for additional projects.

The City of Bayfield believes in leading by example which we feel benefits us and other nearby communities. We also have received tremendous input and positive reactions from our residents. The entire Chequamegon Bay region is strongly supportive of environmental performance. The Green Tier Legacy Community program continues to expand our horizons to learn more from the other communities now in the program. The opportunity to work with 1000 Friends of WI, the DNR and other WI agencies to learn from each other's perspective has certainly been, and continues to be, beneficial to the City of Bayfield and its residents!

TRANSPORTATION

- BART Bus—Continuation of the BART Bus (Bay Area Rural Transit) in our community allows for community members to utilize the service when it's needed. It's helpful for residents who don't have vehicles get to places safely and helps our elderly residents get reliable access to doctor visits and appointments, as well. The addition, the Miskwaabekong Transit is an on-demand bus available to users in the Red Cliff community as well as the City and allows users to easily get

to and from places in our communities for only \$1.00! Overall, the utilization of mass transit helps to reduce the GHG's put off by singular vehicle use in our communities.

LAND USE

- Maintaining Brownstone Trail—We partnered with Bayfield Regional Conservancy and Mary H. Rice, an adjacent land owner, to restore and maintain a small slope along the Brownstone Trail. The goals and objectives include:
 - Preserve, protect and enhance habitats important for native plants and wildlife populations
 - Through best management practices, control invasive plant species to ensure the protection of natural resources
 - Refrain from management activities that will degrade habitat
 - Maintain and/or enhance water quality of Lake Superior.Budget = \$7500
- Improve Coastal Natural Areas—We partnered with the Bayfield Regional Conservancy on the Bayfield Area Community Stewardship Project. Local conservation organizations and coastal communities worked with residents to improve the stewardship of coastal natural areas, with a special emphasis on invasive plant education and control. The implemented weed control and trail maintenance stewardship activities in popular publically-owned and accessible natural areas including the Brownstone Trail, the Big Ravine Forest Preserve and the Cornucopia Beach.

ENERGY

- Dalrymple Campground – Electrical Upgrades made to our campground to help reduce unnecessary electrical consumption
- Street Lights—In 2016 we replaced all of our Cobra Street lights with LED lights with the help of Xcel energy. This cleaner lighting has been beneficial to the City by cutting our energy bill cost, to our citizens by providing more safety at night, and to the environment for reducing our carbon foot print!
- LED Holiday Lights and Local Greens—On our street lights, we provide beautiful decorations each year with local greens, wreaths, and bows. We've updated to LED holiday lights to our lamp posts in the downtown area. This creates a stunning display of lights in the area—especially accompanied with a little snow on a winter's night!
- Lighting—In 2015 we installed new energy efficient lighting for many of our City Buildings (City Hall Building, entries and main room, Fire Hall, Wellhouse #3, Public Works Garage, City Dock, and Flag poles at City Hall and the Courthouse Building).
Budget = \$7500

WATER

- Clean Water Energy Utility Challenge—The City of Bayfield Utility entered in a competition to reduce emissions put off
- Invasive Species— Partnered with the Bayfield County Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) for AID Education, Prevention and Planning. This allowed us to pool our resources while continuing a countywide strategy to be proactive in the effort to educate, prevent and contain aquatic invasive species.
- Clean Marina Recertification—Our City Dock was re-certified and recognized as a Wisconsin Clean Marina until November of 2021. We've adopted a best management practice to help to protect the water quality of Wisconsin's waterways which has significant impact on the health of these resources and the future of recreation boating for generations to come.
- Beach Monitoring—Continuation of our beach monitoring every day and after heavy storms allows for us to clean our beaches and help with potential pollutants that could enter Lake Superior.
- Rain Gardens—With assistance from Bayfield County Land and Water Conservation Department, continuous effort is put into maintaining our rain gardens. These gardens have helped to reduce and redirect the flow of water allowing us to keep Lake Superior free of pollutants from runoff water and other harmful pollutants that could enter the lake.

WASTE

- BRB Recycling Center—We continue to partner with our local BRB Recycling center for our recycling needs. It provides safe, local, and affordable single-stream, and recycling for resident in the area.
- Bayfield Dumpster Day—Every year we provide a dumpster day service where locals are able to dispose of larger items that need to be recycled or re used. This is a free service to everyone located in the City and allows us to dispose of items that could potentially end up polluting our tributary streams and Lake Superior if not otherwise disposed of properly. For the last couple of years, ReSource, our community thrift store, has been invited in an effort to salvage and repurpose items that arrive. They have been successful in garnering enough items to fill two trailers full.
- Waste Management/ Eagle Waste—We continue curbside pickup for trash and recyclables with both facilities. City ordinance requires proper trash disposal and RECYCLING!
- The City of Bayfield continues to provide 25 garbage/recycling containers around the City during our high tourism season (Mid-May to Mid-October). These containers make it easy to recycle!

COMMUNITY

- Tree City USA—We continue to hold our title of Tree City USA status by maintaining our trees in the public right-of-way and on managing common tree diseases that threaten urban forests.
- Bird City USA—We continue to hold our title of Bird City USA and have Migratory Bird Day every year to inform and encourage citizens in the area the importance of migratory birds.

- Farmers Market—The growth and demand of our local farmer's market and the desire to buy local in our community has moved the location of the farmer's market from a parking lot to an entire street on Saturdays in the summer time! This provides ample room for vendors as well as visitors. We have just been informed they need more space in 2017!



BUILD AND BUY GREEN

- Evaluated use of alternative to salt on sidewalk/start on Sandstone Buildings
- All paper purchased is 100% recycled.